



CATAWBA COUNTY

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Department of Social Services

PRESS RELEASE/PSA

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Catawba County Tax Link to Receive 2007 Acts of Caring Award

Catawba County Tax Link will be presented with a 2007 Acts of Caring Award in Washington DC on April 26th. The Acts of Caring Awards are issued by the National Association of Counties (NACo) in partnership with Freddie Mac to recognize the top county volunteer programs in the country. The programs are reviewed by a panel of judges representing the Points of Light Foundation, the American Red Cross, America's Promise—the Alliance for Youth, the Child Welfare League of America and the National Association of Volunteer Programs in Local Government. Jo Sloan and Pam Kidwell from the Department of Social Services will attend the breakfast on Capital Hill to accept the award.

Catawba County Tax Link is now in its third year of operation. Initially, the all-volunteer group consisted of volunteers from Catawba County Social Services and staff/students at Lenoir Rhyne College and Catawba Valley Community College. Today, the volunteer group has expanded to include employees and retirees from several branches of Catawba County government. The program was designed to provide free tax preparation services for low income families in Catawba County. These families often lose up to a third of their tax return by using tax preparation services with high fees. To date in the current tax year, the 29 members of the team have donated 696 hours of volunteer time to the effort. \$367,000 in returns have been generated for local citizens. The Tax Link Program is a shining example of Catawba County's dedication to improving the lives of our citizens.

For more information about services and programs offered by Catawba County, visit www.catawbacountync.gov. Stay up-to-date with Catawba County's e-newsletter by clicking the "Subscribe to Our Newsletter" link on the left-hand side of the page.

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